

Amendments to the Specification:

Page 1, amend the paragraph beginning on line 4 to read as follows:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The invention relates to a triggering unit for initiating pyrotechnic elements in accordance with the preamble of the first claim and to a method for operating this triggering unit.

Page 2, amend the paragraph beginning on line 4 to read as follows:

DISCLOSURE OF THE INVENTION

The object of the invention is to introduce an electronic triggering unit according to the preamble of claim 1 for initiating pyrotechnic elements with a control component, a rectifier, an energy store, a voltage regulator, a data coupler, a current limiter and suppressor circuit, which triggering unit makes possible a hitherto unknown variety of properties and functionality without changes in the hardware or the chip design being necessary.

Page 5, amend the paragraph beginning on line 28 to read as follows:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

An embodiment of a triggering unit according to the invention is described hereinafter with the aid of a circuit diagram in ~~Fig. 1:~~ Fig. 1.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

In the figure, the reference numerals represent the following elements: